

Docket No. 22513-501

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/868,025

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 6-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence comprising a polynucleotide, having ~~[[a]]~~ the sequence SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1 wherein said polynucleotide sequence encodes ~~[[a]]~~ the polypeptide as shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 3-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A transgenic plant comprising a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to the ~~polynucleotide~~ nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1.

11. (Currently amended) A method for conferring salt tolerance on a plant, the method comprising introducing into the plant a recombinant expression cassette comprising a plant promoter operably linked to the ~~polynucleotide~~ nucleic acid sequence as claimed in claim 1.

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